

Gensan, Korea
Jan.25, 1896

My dear Jennie,

Can I tell you how disappointed I was this morning when the mail came and no letter from home? I almost feel sick to think I must wait at least 2 weeks before another ship comes in. We are all keeping well; all had dreadful colds after moving into this house, but all are over them I am happy to say. If you could only know how busy we are, you would not wonder that we don't have time to write. I now have Susanna for my teacher. I do wish you could know what a nice little woman she is. We study the Bible together every day and she helps me on Sunday teach the women. If you could only know the joy it gives me to teach these women! We have not been so happy since we came to Korea as we are since we have a chance to give this blessed Word to these people. There are 4 meetings for the men on Sunday and 2 for the women, and prayer meeting on Wed. nights in 2 places. Our servant goes about 3 miles to teach the villagers the Gospel. I study the Bible with Susanna and Amah and we have prayer on the same evening. Will is teaching our servant and Mr. Gale's helper twice a week the "Life of Christ"; (Mark) Thirsday they were able to give a full outline of 8 chapters and Will said they did splendid. Amah and I are reading Acts. I can see now that I am getting Korean so much better and faster, especially Bible terms. We are very happy in our home in the work, and in the thought that Jesus is coming, and then we are to reign with Him. I trust that all at home may love Jesus with as simple faith and love as these real Christian Koreans.

While I write I wish you could see Wilbur sitting up in his buggy laughing and Olivette teasing Amah. You would laugh to see and hear Olivette talk Korean and sing a Korean hymn she tries and does pretty well, "Jesus loves me, He who died, Heaven's gate to open
He will wash away my sin wide,
Let His little child come in."

I had their pictures taken over a month ago and yet the Japanese has never mounted them so I can send one. I shall send you one of each mounted when he finishes them.

I hope this will find you all well and happy.
Your sister Sallie.

P.S. I am sending by this ship for our Spring order and hope our box is off before you receive this and hope I will get it with the Smith order. We are needing some of the things.

Gensan, Korea - February 10, 1896

My dear Friend,

No doubt a letter concerning the work among the women and children in this part of Korea would be of interest to you. God is wonderfully blessing the work and awakening souls, and the Gospel is being carried to many parts of this land. I trust that your prayers and deepest interest may be enlisted in carrying the Word into the homes of these women.

With the cares of a mother, my household duties and tasks, I am not able to do as much as I would like, yet I am very thankful that the Lord has thus counted me worthy to be one of His servants in bringing the message of salvation to these people, and that I have the privilege of doing the little that I can.

We had lived in the port-city one year and a half before I succeeded in getting an amah (the name given to female servants in the East). Last October the Lord sent me a woman in answer to prayer I am sure. In this part of Korea we seldom find a woman who can read and when I found this woman could read a little, I was delighted and take great pleasure in teaching her. Since she came we have read the Gospel of Mark, and are now reading John's Gospel. She drinks in every word she hears about Jesus, and believes with a simple childlike faith. Several weeks ago I told the women at the meeting that they should pray earnestly that God might help them to believe firmly. That evening Amah asked me to pray for her, that she might believe firmly, without doubting, and she said, "If I had the Holy Spirit it would be good." About one week after she said that, she dreamed that she and some other Korean women were taking a long journey; they became so tired that they could not go any farther, and asked Amah why she was not tired like they were. To which she replied, that she was trusting in Jesus, that made the way easy. Then she told me another dream; she said she saw a bright light in a glass bowl, with bread on top of the bowl. Mr. Song, our faithful old Christian servant, told her that only Jesus-believing people could eat this bread. At first she only tasted of it, and found it tasteless; little by little she learned to like it, and after a while wanted it all. The interpretation she gave was something like this: the bread was the Bible, and the bright light was the Holy Spirit. When she first heard the Word there was no pleasure in it, but by and by she read more and she began to believe and found great pleasure in reading it, and now believes every word. When she had finished reading to me she said, "Can I ever doubt anymore?" Amah is an inspiration to the other Christian women who want to learn to read, too. Since we have introduced the singing of Christian hymns to foreign tunes, we find the hymns written on large sheets of paper and pasted on the walls of their homes, and the women are learning these hymns. Soon, we hope, they will be reading the Gospels for themselves.

The singing of the Christian hymns adds much praise to the meetings, and the Koreans are delighted, and sing ever so well. I am teaching a class of bright little boys on Sunday afternoon to sing and recite Bible stories. Mrs. Mah, our Bible woman, studies the Bible with me every day. After the lesson she teaches me the language for 2 or 3 hours. She is a lovely little woman, consecrated and devoted to the work. On Sunday mornings we go to Wonsan, about 3 mi. from here.

and have interesting meetings with the women, and they are well attended. Two old ladies with snowy locks seem much interested, to break the Bread of Life joyously to them.

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These women are hungering and thirsting for something better than the worship of the Evil Spirits. Sunday afternoons the women from the villages north of here come to our house for services. These are not so well attended as the meetings in Wonsan, yet those who do come are much interested, and one of them is learning to read. She read nearly one chapter of the Gospel of John that I might know that she was learning to read. After the women leave, I have a little Sunday school for the foreign children. It fills my heart with joy to hear their sweet little voices. On Sunday evenings our servants and Mrs. Mah come in for a service; I play the organ, we sing hymns and have prayer, and thus close the day which has been so full and joyous to us all.

Perhaps it will be interesting to you to know how we spend our Christmas in this far-away place. About one week before Christmas we moved into the new Mission House. By hurrying we got nicely settled so we could invite the Christians to our home on Jesus' Birthday. Christmas morning we were all up bright and early, remembering each other with little tokens of love. My heart was filled when little gifts from the Koreans came so nicely wrapped in paper. About 10 o'clock the Christian women, their friends, and their children came until our parlor was filled. I took out all the chairs and we sat Korean fashion on the floor. At the same time Mr. Swallen received the men in the chapel. We had a service of singing, prayer, and a Bible lessons on "Christ's Birth", and on "His Second Coming." After the service we had refreshments - cake, pop-corn balls, oranges, and a nice variety of Japanese sweets. Late in the afternoon they all went to their homes, seemingly very happy, and I assure you they left a happy family here.

New Years, I received the Korean Christian men, and entertained them just as we do the foreigners who make New Years calls. I can truly say it was the Merriest Christmas and Happiest New Year we have known. Our already happy home has been brightened with two happy little children. Olivette Poanna is now $2\frac{1}{2}$ years old, and speaks more Korean than English. James Wilbur, 9 months old, I am doubly happy in my home, and with the work among the women.

Yours in the Master's service,
Sallie Swallen.

Gensan, Korea - Feb.25, 1896

My dear Jennie,

Yesterday the ship brought a letter from Della and Cozette, for which I was glad; also the ship before this one brought one from Etta. It has been sometime since I received one from you. Since I get the Independent I know you are all well. I sent one of the circular letters which I got ready before the last ship went out. I took off 15 copies on Will's duplicator which we find very satisfactory and a great saving of time. It is very simple; like a large book made of wood and the inside is geletine, -4 large sides of the geletine. There is ink on purpose for using with it. We write one copy, wet the geletine, drying with a newspaper and then place on the geletine the copy which is printed on the geletine, and then we can take off 50 copies up to 100, just as fast as the paper can be put on and taken off. I think we can print 100 copies in an hour, and probably less time. Will is now getting a letter ready and we will send you a copy. He finds it convenient for his Korean work. I had a lot of unanswered letters and I can soon answer them in this way. If you only knew how busy I am, - not at housework that would be easy indeed, but at this language, as I get Bible lessons ready, instruct the Bible woman, teaching the Amah, looking after the children, sewing, etc. There is a kind of a nervous strain which you at home can know nothing about. I don't know whether it is the atmosphere or whether it is because of the language I suppose it is everything combined.

At our Sunday morning meetings the room is filled with women and children, some in immaculate white, while others are as black as the ground. Two real old women who heard the Gospel for the first since we have been having meetings down there are much interested and I am sure want to believe, but they don't know anything at all about the Bible, but when they once do believe firmly it is wonderful how they can remember it Amah can usually tell Will in the evening what she heard at the meeting at the chapel in the afternoon. I do hope that Korea is not going to be turned up-side-down again. You will have heard about the trouble before this reaches you. We only heard last night the particulars. The Korean King was in the palace the same as a prisoner. I am not sure, but I think the foreigners were forbidden entrance to the palace, so he was entirely in the hands of the Japanese, and we know that they were forced to cut off their hair. How angry the people were! At Seoul I guess most of the people were compelled to cut off the top-knot, but here and in the country many escaped. Here at the port they left their families and ran to the country when the edict was put up and the police went around with their scissors in their hand.

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Our servants stood their ground, and all of the Christians, and had their hair cut off before they were compelled. On Sunday scarcely a man was to be seen on the street, but when the edict was recalled and it was left for them to do as they pleased, soon the streets were full again.

On Feb.11 between 6 and 7 in the morning the Korean King, the Crown Prince, and the Princess, with some attendants, made their escape from the palace. For a week or so the palace women had been going out and coming in in closed chairs, such as the high-class women ride in; and it was in those chairs that they made their escape and went straight to the Russian Legation where 100 Russian soldiers had assembled the night before. Soon the King had a new cabinet appointed of the men who had been in hiding, and the old cabinet made their escape/ But two were unfortunate and were seized by the angry crowd and short work was made of them. The King is at the Russian Legation surrounded by 400 or 500 soldiers.

What is to become of poor Korea? No one knows.

Is there to be another war this time between Japan and Russia? We only can wait and see. We have no fears for God will take care of us and we will go on sowing the seed just as fast as we can.

Does it not look like the end was drawing near, when we see so many nations being involved in war?

In Matt.24 we read there shall wars and rumors of war and the Gospel shall be preached in all nations for a witness, and then shall the end come. And then Christ is coming for His people. Have you studied about the Second Coming yet? We find great comfort in the thought.

Do you think that England and U.S. will go on until they get into a war? It does really look like it from what we read. Of course our news is always way behind time. We are anxiously waiting to see what they will do. Dr. Hardie is a radical Englishman; he and Will have hot discussions.

I wish you could see my new dresses I am making. I just finished the plaid, made it Greek front; ripped up my old dress and put it on the old lining so it fits real nice. The other is Japanese cloth, and I'm making it for everyday wear. I want to soon make the black serge but I dread it for I have to cut the linings, and Will and Amah help me fit them, so you may know how hard it is. Oh! for a dressmaker. I am so glad we don't have to keep up with the styles We wear our dress made way back in the '80 and think they still look real stylish. I expect you would laugh to see our hats, but they do very nicely, and since we are all alike it is no difference.

- 2 - March 13, 1896

These beautiful days make me feel like I would give anything to come home. Well, wouldn't I enjoy to sit down to a home-dinner with you all, and wouldn't I be proud of my babies and happy to bring them home, so you could see how sweet and cunning they really are. Olivette is so cunning now since she talks, and especially since she orders the Koreans around, and speaks so much Korean. She sits in her little chair with with a Korean book in front of her, the Anah nearby with the Gospel of John. She says a word, then Olivette repeats it; thus they read fora long time. Sometimes Olivette gets the book and repeats all the words she knows in Korea, and all she can think of. Mrs. Pieters in Nagasaki sent her a little set of dishes, and I bought a little table for her.

This p.m. Mrs. McGill came over with her two little girls. I got out the dishes and they had a tea-party. Olivette sat at the head of the table; it was surely cunning to see her pour the milk. She called it coffee; would hold the handle with one hand and the lid on with the other, and would go around the table and wait on Stella and Myrta, just like a little old woman. Mrs. McGill and I made our sides ache laughing at them. Wilbur is the dearest baby, so good and you are not mistaken about his beauty. He has not been very well, and cutting four teeth, which are about through, so he is feeling good again. I am feeding him condensed milk and Mellons Food, and he is getting so fat and nice. The airing they get out-doors every day is doing them a lot of good. I want tell you how devoted the Anah is to both of them, and how much they like her. I haven't missed a meeting since I have had charge of them. Anah takes such good care of them while I am away.

I am so sorry to bother you so much when you are busy so much, and your hands are so full. I hope I can make the things last until we come home, and not have to end home any more and put you to so much trouble. I can assure you that home-made maple syrup would be a rare treat out here. If it wont be too much bother I wish you would buy several gallons from Add and send it. If you did not get the syrup off so it will come with our Spring order, you had better wait until Fall, as I dont know of anyone at this place who will be sending this Spring or summer to San Francisco. You spoke sometime ago about wanting our folks to send us some apples. While we would appreciate them and they would be a treat, yet it would be a risk to ship such perishable things as fruit of any kind so far. We can buy very nice apples in Nagasaki, Japan, and have all the oranges we want.

- 3 - March 13, 1896

We are learning to like the Koreans pears which last all winter and only cost a trifle.

I wish you could see what a nice Xmas present will got for me,- a lady's writing desk. He drew a picture of one and sent it to Japan and had it made.

I am now writing on it. I always had so much trouble when I was writing and studying, about Olivette getting into everything when I was called out, and I always had to put everything away, and then the bother of hunting up my writing when I would come back. So now I have a desk that I can leave everything on it, draw down the oval lid, go back raise it and go to work just as I left it. On top is a shelf and pigeon-holes, and several little drawers, with two doors shutting all up like a little cupboard. It is neat and I cant tell you how convenient. I got Wilbur a high chair, and Olivette a little rocking chair made. Now I am having a centre stand and a wash-stand made for the spare bedroom; also a set of cane chairs made. I never saw furniture go to pieces like it does out here. We have our chairs glued over and over, and the things crack and go to pieces, and very soon look old and shabby. Will says if the climate uses us like the furniture we will soon be surely going to pieces pretty soon. It is telling on Dr. Hardie's family; they have been here 6 yrs. and now must go home full of malaria. Everyone has it. They hope to start very soon for Canada.

I agree with you about keeping Etta in school and away from home. All the scholars she gets went amount to anything and she can go to Ada on just about half where she can at Delaware, and have just as good a teacher in Mrs. Darst, and then she can be in school until in July, and only be at home about 2 weeks in the summer. I shall write to her and do what I can to have her go. If her money runs out why cant Pa sell that land and let her go on it?

I must close as I have so much to do. This is Fri. and I have 2 Bible lessons to get ready for Sunday. Hope this finds you as well as it leaves us.

With love to all,

Sallie.

Gensan, Korea - March 13, 1896

My dear Sister Jennie,

Your letter of Feb. 9 received today. How glad I was to hear from home, and the best of all, that you are all well. No doubt you will be more or less anxious about us when you hear of the troubles again in Korea, and especially if you should hear of this port. Really, the people in the country act more like mad-men, and I suppose there would be danger if the people from the north and south coming to wipe out the Japanese, as they say they are going to, if the Japanese soldiers were not here. But the settlement is well guarded, and we live almost in the settlement. We are not the least bit afraid. Of course Will cannot go to the country nor he cant send the helpers now since they have their hair cut. The Korean King sent word to the American minister Mr. Sill that the Korean Gov't would not be responsible for any missionary who went into the country at this time. At Ham-heung, 90 mi. north of here, the Korean official and one policeman were killed.

Also one Japanese. And the report comes that the people from Puk-chun and Ham-heung are uniting to come down and wipe out the Japanese. And all the Koreans who had their hair cut; also the report comes from the south that the people are banding together to come up to Wonsan to drive out the Japanese. The hate the Japanese with a bitter hatred, and especially since the attempt was made to make them cut their hair, and now since they failed they are more angry than ever, and want to rid the country of them at once.

The telegraph line from here to Seoul has been destroyed, and the Customs Courier cannot go overland. So we have no communications, only as the ships come. There is a transport running between here and Busan, which brings messages once a week and also the mail. There has been a Russian man-of-war in the harbor for a little while, but she left the other day. No news came to us from Seoul today, and Will has been too busy to go to the Customs reading room this afternoon, so we have nothing new. There is really no law now in Korea, and the Koreans realize it, and in the provinces away from the Capitol they are doing as they please. Those who cut off their hair here at the port, and now putting it up again. I dread to have the servants put up theirs.

They are so much cleaner with short hair. We say nothing either way; take no sides. What is to be the end we cant tell, but I do wish these countries would settledown in peace pretty down.

I think the winter weather at home has been very

much like it has been here; no real winter weather.

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I am so sorry to bother you so much when you are busy so much, and your hands are so full. I hope I can make the things last until we come home, and not have to end home any more and put you to so much trouble. I can assure you that home-made maple syrup would be a rare treat out here. If it won't be too much bother I wish you would buy several gallons from Add and send it. If you did not get the syrup off so it will come with our Spring order, you had better wait until Fall, as I don't know of anyone at this place who will be sending this Spring or summer to San Francisco. You spoke sometime ago about wanting our folks to send us some apples. While we would appreciate them and they would be a treat, yet it would be a risk to ship such perishable things as fruit of any kind so far. We can buy very nice apples in Nagasaki, Japan, and have all the oranges we want.

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I must close as I have so much to do. This is Fri. and I have 2 Bible lessons to get ready for Sunday. Hope this finds you as well as it leaves us.

With love to all,

Sallie.

Gensan, Korea - March 26, 1896

My dear Jennie,

Tha ship came today but brought no mail from you for which I am disappointed. I see by the Independent that you are all well so I do not feel uneasy. I see that "Aunt Mille" and also Mrs. Hec. Pratt have gone Home. I trust that Pa and Ma will be spared until we come home. I suppose if all is well we will be getting ready to come home five years hence. It does seem like a long time but time passes so fast and the years will soon pass.

Will and I are just passing through some trials with the Koreans and I can tell you that I am in no condition to write. These Koreans really make us so nervous and try us so that we think sometimes we never can stand it. We don't get one thing settled until another just as bad or worse is upon us. When the Gales were here they started a school and of course it went on after they left. We never did have a speck of confidence in the teacher and knew he was not a Christian. We knew it was not right to have such a man exerting such an influence over the boys, let alone calling such a school a "Jesus believing school". Both he and his wife tried all they could to win our favor and please us. One week ago we stopped the school, and of course it made quite a talk and made the man dreadful mad. We have that all settled and off our hands now. I hope still to be able to get the little boys on Sat. afternoon to teach them. Just as soon as we can find a teacher we want to start a school in Wonsan for the Christian boys.

Some of the church members got offended at the evangelist, Mr. Saw, and did a good bit of talking before we got on to it. So of course Will had that to settle, which settled up in a most Christian way.

One day it is one thing and another day it is another. We are trying to fix up the yard a little, making wa;ls, flower-beds, and getting the yard ready to seed. I do hope Pa is sending the grass seed. I do not have much ambition to do it, for very likely next Spring we will have to be moving and getting ready to fix up another yard. I just can't stand it to live in this "barn-yard" any longer, and since it belongs to the Mission we will fix it up a little, at least. I sowed cabbage, lettuce, tomatoes, & radishes yesterday. I had a few seeds left over from last year I will very soon have the garden spaded and some made

I study every day and have two meetings on Sunday. The meeting in Wonsan is well attended and ever so many women are becoming interested.

Will married his first couple Sunday afternoon, or on very short notice. Our good old Song took to himself

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a wife. He was going after Korean custom, which is to go and see her and after that she would be his wife. When he found out that a Christian could not do that he gladly consented to have a Christian ceremony. I hope Will will write it up for the Independent, for I know you would enjoy it.

No doubt you have heard of the uprisings before this. The country people are up in arms and there is so much suffering. No doubt they want to drive out the Japanese and get back the "good old times." There has been a Japanese "man-of-war" in here for sometime, and the soldiers from the ship guarded the settlement while the regulars went over and had a battle with the Koreans. The Japs were victorious, of course, and returned yesterday. So I see today that the regular soldiers are guarding again. A Russian man-of-war has been here for several days which makes the harbor quite business like. We received word from Seoul today which gave us news only that the King is still at the Russian legation and everything is quiet except in the country. What may happen next no one can tell.

We are keeping quite well. Olivette had rather a hard time last week. I suspected she had worms and gave her Santonine, which brought many away, between 50 or 60 worms. She is feeling better now and will soon get fat and plump again. Wilbur has four teeth; stands up in the buggy and by a chair and is getting fat, now, since I don't nurse him. How I wish you could enjoy my babies with me. They are a great joy and comfort to us.

I hope this will find you all well and happy. I must close now and study my Bible lesson for Sunday.

Love to all. Lovingly,

Sallie.

Gensan, Korea - April 17, 1896

Dear. Bro. Will,

Your report received, and I assure you it is all satisfactory. We are so thankful to you for all your kindness and trouble, for I know it is a lot of it. We want you to take out what is right for your pay and we shall not be satisfied unless you do. I think you told me that you were paying the tax on it, which you must do, for it would be very wrong not to do it. After this, at the close of each year I want you to take a tenth of the interest for our tithe. Unless I tell you what to do with it Jennie can take it and use it for the Lord in whatever way she thinks best.

I am glad you are paying the Ogden tax. I am in hopes the lot will be worth something sometime. I hope my bills may be fewer in the next four years, so I won't

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bother you so much. You and Jennie are ever so kind and I assure you we appreciate what you do for us.

Will is very busy. Work is piling upon him, but I remind him of his duty quite often and he would write more often if he had time.

We were ever so much pleased to hear of your success financially and while we rejoice in your success we wait anxiously to hear that you have given yourself to the Lord and are "laying up treasures in heaven." May you not delay until it is too late. In your busy rush of life stop and think of the future life. Are you preparing for it?

Our best wishes to you all.

Sallie.

April 17, 1896

My dear Sister,

Your letter of March 3 received a week ago. I was so glad to get it. I know I put you to too much trouble and I think I will make out an order and send it direct to New York after this and let our Board get our things and it will save you all this bother. I can't tell you how thankful I am for all your trouble, and all those nice things which I haven't had the pleasure of seeing yet. Our things came one week ago from San Francisco. I see they were shipped from there the 1st of March, so it was too late. I shall send a letter to Smith Co. by this ship ordering the box sent to Nagasaki, so we will soon get it. What a treat to open a box from home and we are anxiously waiting its coming. I am sure that everything will suit and I will be better pleased than if I had bought them myself. With what I have on hand I can get along very well until the box comes.

Our clothes are beginning to show that we have been out here almost 4 years, and I have a lot of darning and mending to do. I received the mittens that Tirza sent and will write and thank her for them. They came just in time as my old ones are just about finished.

Many thanks for the nice pictures which you so kindly sent. I am glad you had on your wraps and hat, so I can see the style. Would you believe that Essa and Ona are young ladies already! I can't believe it.

I should think you would be a little jealous to have Will surrounded by such a lot of nice young ladies. How pretty they comb their hair now! I part mine in the middle. I want to be a little in style, you see. I know you would laugh at our dress and hats but since we are all alike it is no difference. How fat Etta must be; she sent me one of her pictures and she does look ever so sweet. I do wish she would make the most of the opportunity she has. She is old enough to know what

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she is doing now, and I do think is a shame for her to be spending her time at home in the kitchen. But maybe she will do a good bit for the children by taking them to Sunday school, etc. which may more than repay her for staying at home. I wrote her what an opportunity she had at home in teaching the children in the right way. You spoke about Add's sending us some maple syrup. How delighted we will be, for you know I have a sugar-tooth. I hope he hasn't sent it yet and will not until Fall. Send it so it will come out with our Fall order and then it won't be so long and get spoiled on the way.

I expect you are making your garden by this time. I have ours spaded and some seeds planted; am covering this "barn-yard" with flowers beds, and hope to make it look a little more homelike next Spring, if we are here. I intend to seed every bit of it down and have a lawn. We have the Gales' garden while they are away, so I want to raise a lot of things and I hope we will have a nice lot of strawberries. Our grapes and orchard are doing fine. We hope very soon to have raspberries to set out. How busy we are! I study about 2 hours, sew a little, look after the garden and yard, and always prepare the children's food and usually feed baby and always put them to bed and give them the bath, besides the thousand and one other things which are to do about a house. Will studies every forenoon, and part of the afternoon he goes out on his bicycle and preaches where ever he can get a crowd, and he doesn't have any trouble. Sometimes he preaches to several crowds in one afternoon, and then he tells them if they want to hear more about this wonderful doctrine they can find him in his study. The work is encouraging in spite of the restless condition of the people. We were rejoiced this week to know of one man who burned his tablets and gave up his ancestral worship and he has only known about the Gospel a few months. He walks in 5 miles to church on Sunday morning. We find he has a wife and a concubine for which we are sorry, but since the concubine has no children he can easily put her away, and we hope God will help him to do just the right thing.

I won't say anything about my work this time, -it is very encouraging, but will try to send a letter for your Society. There are only Dr. and Mrs. McGill of the Methodist Mission at this place. I cannot say anything about their work, only that doctor does all that is done. He has a small farm of about 7 acres, he doctors and preaches and does a great deal of itinerating. It is said of him that he sells more books than any other man in Korea. He is a very practical man. He holds meetings in his dispensary on Sunday, and 8 women attend regularly. Mrs. McGill is a nice little woman.

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She has nice little girls, 6 and 4 years old. She has never studied any of the language, and does most of her own work, and says she sees very few Korean women. Mrs. M.F.Scranton's letter gives the work done by the Methodist women only. I am glad you have such a large Society and trust that more will become interested in Missions. My friend Miss Frey of the M.E. Girls School in Seoul is coming in June to visit us, and I will try to get her to write your Society a letter. I wish I could send you more things from Korea, which would be of interest to you, but it is so expensive getting things home that I hesitate to undertake it. I want to get more pictures as soon as I can.

We have all had colds. Olivette and baby have had a real hard time. Olivette is well again and baby is getting better. We thought sure for a time that they were going to have whooping cough. Olivette is a cunning one; it is laughable to hear her speak Korean and talk low-talk to Wilbur. Wilbur is just like Olivette was when she was his age, so thin and white, but he is a very strong child and so active, can draw himself up and stand by something. How I do wish you could see them!

I have written in a big hurry as you can see. I am not in the lett-writing business now-days, and it is not easy to get at it. But I must not neglect you at home. I just received a letter from Josie (Dise); she has 2 children,-Joyce 4, and Eva one year. She sent me their pictures, they are right sweet little children. Father Fisher lives in Tyrone, Pa. still. The girls are all married but two. They married very good Christian men, so they write me.

Do you know how Fess is coming to the front? He and Afline beat Halfhill and some other man in Lima, O. on a contest debate. Fess is lecturing and teaching all over the state at institutes; has bought the Alhifelt place,-you know it is by far the prettiest place in Ada Myrta Wells is teaching in Florida this year.

Well I must close. With our love to you all.

Yours

Sallie.

Gensan, Korea - May 5, 1896

My dear Jennie,

Your letter of April 1 was received about April 30th, I think, which made quick time. I was so glad to hear from home. Your letter found us all sick with colds, servants and all. I think it must be a kind of "grippe", we feel so tired and good for nothing. Baby has a dreadful cough, and is getting so thin I almost feel alarmed about him.

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He is like Olivette was when we went to Japan. He eats well and would sleep well if it wasn't for his cough. I trust he will be all right very soon. This has been a hard Spring, so cool and so much wind. Olivette has had a dreadful cold but is all right now and is getting fat again, since she got over the effect of these dreadful worms. I can't imagine how you could do so much; I fear you will break down under it. I really wish you would do less and look after your health more. I am just as busy as I can be, but I do very little going. I have the two meetings on Sunday and a little calling, but I am at home nearly all the time. Spring brings with it so many duties and as I see to just about everything in the garden and yard along with house-cleaning and sewing, language study and teaching, the women who come to our house for a sight-see, getting the lesson for Sunday, all together I am very busy.

We did not get to seed the yard as we could not get it in a condition in time, nor did we have the seed so I almost covered it with flower-beds. I don't have a variety of seeds, but I would rather have bare beds than this fiery red clay. I wish you could have some of the beautiful azalias which are in bloom. Mountains are almost covered. There is an early variety which is a dark pink; the ones in bloom now are white and a delicate pink. I have some beautiful pansies in bloom, which I kept in the cellar. How I do wish I could get some of your flowers! I want to send to Japan and get some roses as soon as I can.

Our garden is doing nicely, but we need rain so much. Our strawberries are almost a failure this year. But we know now better how to manage them, so we hope to profit by this failure. I have 12 raspberry bushes started; one blackberry and several nice grape-vines. Next Spring we will get other small fruits and get them started.

Will has gone to prayer meeting this evening, and I am alone with the babies. Dr. Scranton of the M.E. Mission in Seoul is visiting in Gensan. He took supper with us and went with Will to the prayer meeting. He says he baptized 19 last Sunday, which speaks well for Dr. McGill's work here. Did you notice in the March Repository a short article by Dr. Philip Jason (Korean) What Korea needs - or something like that? I have for-¹² gotten the exact subject. The writer is a Korean; 4 yrs ago he was compelled to flee from Korea because of his progressive ideas. He went to America, learned English and studied medicine, became an American citizen, and they say married an American lady, -but she hasn't come to Korea yet. He comes back an American citizen, and has started to publish a periodical in "unmun", the

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the vernacular character, which the common people can read and the scholars despise. He is also advisor to the King and an earnest Christian; a man of very high rank and we do hope that he can help do something to bring about some reforms that will help these poor down-trodden people. I hope you will be interested in his articles.

I expect the box to come now any time. We heard from Smith Co., it reached there all right. I hope you are all well and that Ma and Pa are well.

With much love to all,

Sallie.

May 29, 1896

My dear Sister,

Your letter written one month ago today, was received last evening. I, too, am out of the letter-writing business just now. It is quite a task to get at it. Week before last I packed away all of our woolen clothes, had the carpets well-cleaned and put them away in tobacco; put away all the extra feathers. Last week we took up all the matting and had a thorough cleaning. This week I am having a miserable boil on the back of my neck/ I have suffered dreadfully. This morning the core came out so I am in hopes the worst is over. From the way it is beginning to hurt from holding my head so still to work, I fear I will have to make my letter short. I am so glad to tell you that Wilbur is entirely well again, and is gaining so fast. He is walking all around, holding on to something, - he is the dearest, sweetest baby and is so cunning. I know you would say he is pretty with his sandy hair and fair skin and dark eyes. It sounds good to hear you call him James. I wish you could hear Olivette sing. Really she almost carries the tune herself to "Jesus loves me". She counts to 10 and I have commenced to teach her the alphabet. How I wish they had a nice yard like yours to play in. I know it is lovely, for I remember what a pretty place it is. Ours looks much better since we had the front sodded and the flower-beds made. We have a nice garden, have had onions for sometime, and a few radishes, lettuce. Strawberries are just beginning to ripen. I have seen to almost every bit of it and put in nearly all the seed,-I enjoy it so much. Please pardon this letter. I must stop for my neck is so tired, hurts so bad.

Dr.Hardie and family leave by this ship for Toronto. They are all sick with malaria fever. I will write a long letter when my neck is well again. I would write to Ma but I can't this time. You send her word we are all well.

With love to all,

Sallie.

Gensan, Korea - June 19, 1896

My dear Sister,

It doesn't seem possible it has been 3 weeks since I wrote, but the Tokio Maru is in again and will probably leave in the morning, so here I am hurrying a letter off again. I am glad to tell you that I am through with the boils. I had 2 on the back of my neck. Well, it was something, pretty painful for a while. Will had one on his hand and one on his ear. They are also better. We wish we knew the cause. About a month or two ago the Koreans were selling a little fish. I don't know if there is any English name for them; we never had eaten them before, so we tried them, and found them delicious fried in bread-crumbs, or cornmeal. It took 10 for one meal, so you can imagine how little they were. I think the 10 would not cost 1 cent. As long as they were so cheap and good, we ate too many, and they served us like walnuts when too many are eaten. They were greasy things. The Koreans catch them by the boat-load, dry them and use them for manure. The Japanese ship boat-load after boat-load to Japan. We are buying a lot of them to enrich our garden, and hope by so doing to have better strawberries next year. Our strawberries did not turn out so bad. We have Mr. Gale's garden while they are away, and with their berries and ours we have had strawberries about every meal since June. And they will likely last over Sunday. And then the raspberries will be ripe. We are only starting raspberries, but Mr. Gale has a fair number of bushes, so we will get them. We have only one lone blackberry bush, and we don't know how to propagate from that. We hope every year that it will throw out sprouts. We bought a Korean cow a few weeks ago and get about 3 qts. of milk a day. You can imagine how well we have been living on bread and milk and cream and strawberries. I am sure the children will do much better on it than on condensed milk. Will says he can never use the dirty Japanese cow's milk again. I am sure now that it was and is about half water. We never have had a better garden, -onions, radishes, and lettuce for a long time, and have had peas twice and beets for greens once, and spinach is now ready to use. I planted nearly all the seeds and had the supervision of it all. I really have enjoyed it. It has done me a lot of good, and I never felt better. And I really think I look as young as I did when I left home. Our yard is looking quite nice, and we had it nearly covered with flower beds and the front sodded. I have the beds all filled with flowers, -pansies are in bloom, as are the carnation pinks. I will have 3 beds of solid pansies if they do well. I have set

June 19, 1896

out our plants now. I have a large S in the largest place and have that filled with white asters, so it will be one solid bed of white after while. I don't know, but I think I will level off the yard and have it seeded down next Spring.

I presume we will have to move about the time we get the things looking a little decent. Mr. Gale is still in Japan and will likely be there until almost Christmas. His dictionary doesn't go on as fast as he had anticipated. They go to America after that, so there's no telling when they'll be back, The Board did not grant the money for our house, but we are living in hopes that they will build for us before the Gales come back. Miss Doty, one of our ladies in Seoul, leaves for America this month. I think her home is in Illinois, and I wish you could meet her while she is at home. I suppose the Hardie family is drawing near to America by this time. There are only Mrs. McGill and myself here now. There is one other foreign lady here, Mrs. Manheimer; her husband is in the customs. She speaks English well and is a very nice woman, so we associate with her. Really, I am too busy to be sociable, and I have very little time for calling. I have felt my duty is to the Koreans. I put in last week making calls, and called on 14 or more women, and at every house I saw them by the roomful. I can speak quite well now, and they can understand me very well. I hurry as fast as I can with my work and sewing so I can get in as much study as possible. I want to pass the 2nd year examination this Fall, if I can, and before we come home I want to have passed all the examinations. It will be a happy day when I can do my own teaching and give these women the Gospel. At the next communion I think there will be 4 or 5 women for baptism. There are about 12 or 15 who are much interested and attend quite regularly, but they have not had enough instruction, and I fear are all of them converted yet. Pray for the work in this place.

I notice that you have made no reply to my letters in regard to the Second Coming of Christ. I can't help but think that you think I am fanatical, and take up with every new idea that comes along. Not at all. I am so thankful that our attention has been called to it; we find great comfort in the hope that Christ is likely to come at any time, and our Bibles have become new books to us. At home I never heard a sermon on the 2nd Coming of Christ, and I remember that Dr. Bashford talked and talked about the higher criticism, but I never heard him mention the fact that Christ was soon to come. Our Bibles are full of the 2nd Coming, and Revelation opens up as never before. When our attentior

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was called to it I remember we were not hasty to take it up, but little by little we began to read and think about it, and the more we read and studied the more comfort we find in it. I think every member of our Mission and nearly everyone of the Methodists are pre-millenarians. I have my doubts if you sent for the "Missionary Review of the Word", and "The Truth", as I told you to. They were presents to you, and Will from us. You would have mentioned it if you had. I am sorry if you didn't, for I know you would enjoy them.

"The Missionary Review of the World" is full of interesting articles. We are taking a little paper from London, which costs only a few cents, called "The Morning Star". If you would like to study up about the Second Coming of Christ I will mail it to you after we have read it. It is full of interesting articles, and has so much about the Jews. Do you know the prophecies concerning the Jews are now being fulfilled? Is.17:10 The Jews are planting vineyards, and thousands and thousands of grape-cuttings from America. I saw not long ago that they expect a big crop of grapes this year, and I just now noticed the 11th verse of Is.17, where the prophet speaks of the plant growing, and there is a heap in the day of desparate sorrow, which must be the 7 years of great tribulation, as some call it "Jacob's trouble."

I also see in "The Morning Star" that several men have seen pillars and parts of the temple which the Jews are to build in Jerusalem, that are being prepared by the rich Jews, so when they buy Palestine they will have the temple partly ready. This is the temple in which the Anti-christ is to stand up and declare himself to be God. I trust that you will go to your Bible and look it all up for yourself, and may you find much comfort in doing it.

Will has gone to bed and as the nights are so short and the babies awaken early I must close for this time.

I hope this will find you all well.

With ever so much love to all,

Sallie.

Gensan, Korea, July 10, 1896

My dear Sister,

I wrote almost a letter to you the other day, but like everything else where there are children, it has been put away and can't be found just now. So I will write a short letter for fear if I wait I won't get it done. The ship is expected any time now and sometimes she only stays a little while. Miss Frey has gone to Vladivostock and will stop with us for a month on her way back, so I expect her today. Miss Lewis will visit Mrs. McGill. How we will enjoy having them here! Chilsingie, our little boy whom we are educating in Seoul, came over-land from Seoul yesterday. He wrote such a nice letter to us a short time ago. His father, Song, is one of the best men we have up here. He studies his Bible every spare minute he can get. One day out of every five is the market, and he goes and sells books and tells as many as he can about the Gospel. The work is most encouraging. Our meetings are well attended and Will thinks if they keep on coming this way he will soon build our rooms larger in Wonsan. Will is writing a circular letter and will send you one so you can have a little idea of how the Lord's blessing is on the work. We are so disappointed about our house, more because we can't live closer to the people, but we hope the Board will see their way to build next year.

Your letter of May 19 came one week ago, and the box about a week before that. Well, I can't tell you how much pleased I am with everything and so thankful to you for all these pretty and useful things and all your kindness and trouble. I think the dress you sent is a beauty and I feel very stylish in all these new-fashioned clothes. The blue wrapper is just the dress I was most needing. Its the only dark morning dress I have. The shoes are all fine and fit all right. Olivette enjoys her dollie and I wish you could see and hear her sing to it. She knows who Aunt Jennie is and says Grandma just as plain. She really takes in everything, and these little ears and eyes are open to hear and see everything. On behalf of Will and the babies I want to thank you and Will for all these nice things. Olivette's little knife and fork and spoon are so nice. I will write to Ma and Addie thanking them, too. I don't think I will ever like shopping again, especially when you send me better than I could suit myself, I am sure.

The rainy season has come for sure; we have had about 2 weeks of it and are wondering how long it will last. Today the sun has come out so I have the blankets, mattresses, and all on the line. It may not

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rain for a day or two, but most likely it will pour this afternoon. We have all the cabbage, tomatoes, etc. set out and Will has set out several nice beds of strawberries. We used those little fish for manure and were sorry enough that we did, for the foxes and dogs came near ruining everything, digging them up to get the fish. We have put a stop to it by putting out strychnia, and found 4 dead foxes and one dog, and are sure others got some but got further away to die. Our garden is fine and we are enjoying it so much. I have felt so well since we came over here, and I haven't been so fat; working in the garden is the secret, I am sure. My flowers are coming on so well. The pansies are blooming beautifully. How glad I am for all these nice seeds! I will plant them next year. When shall I plant the tulip seed and how do you cultivate them? How I wish I could get some of your flowers but I am getting quite a nice variety and next Spring I hope to send to Japan for some. The Captains on the boats are ever so kind about bringing such things.

Will has read the "True Science of Living", and consequently omits breakfast except a cup of coffee and a little piece of brown bread. That recipe you sent makes the best brown bread we ever ate, and now since we have a cow and can have sour milk I make it all the time. I am quitting breakfast gradually, and Olivette of course like most children does not want anything, but Wilbur is ready for a big cup of milk and porridge; he is looking so much better and is getting fat since we got the cow.

For the next 2 months I am going to take things easier as I can. I have my sewing done. I will only mend things as they need it. Susanna has no servant to look after her baby so I am not studying just now. I hope she will get someone soon for I do not like to miss a day, and I can't study alone. I have just read the Life of John G. Paton, a missionary to the New Hebrides. I know you would enjoy it. I want to read the books you sent next.

I am so glad to hear that Pa and Ma keep well. I trust that they may be spared until we come home. Our time is about half up. Will's mother is in very poor health and I fear we will never see her again. She has such a firm trust in God that everything is all right. I am glad to hear such good news about Etta and hope she will stick to it. How busy you must be! But I find it is best to be busy, especially out here where we see so few foreigners. I can't tell where the weeks go, they fly so fast. Day after tomorrow is Sunday and I have 2 lessons to give. I must close and study them some more.

I hope this finds you all well as it leaves us.

With ever so much love to all, Sallie.

Gensan, Korea - Aug.17, 1896

My dear Sister,

Your letter of July 12 came today. Well, I feel ever so bad that I have neglected to write to Ma and Pa I will be more careful for I know how they feel. So much has piled up for me to do and its easy to put off writing. I was so glad to hear you are all well. What a nice trip you have had, for you are back ere this. I think it is so nice for you and Will to go and there is nothing to hinder you. In 4 years you are coming to see us, aren't you? We will have our new house by that time, we hope.

I just finished writing a letter to Lydia Lord Davis in Ada. I think Ward went with her, I don't know, but Will says that a young man from Oberlin who was going to China as a missionary (probably he was from Ravenna, that was where she lived) came to the pastor in Ravenna and asked him if he knew of a good consecrated lady who would probably go to China with him. This pastor introduced him to Lydia Lord and she went with him. She wrote me sometime ago after seeing a little piece I wrote that came out in "Women's Work in the Far East" So she got our address in that way. She says they may visit us on their way to America next Spring, as they go home on furlough. She has a little boy $3\frac{1}{2}$ years old. She is teaching in a Girls School in Jen Tsun, Shansi, China. It surely will be fine if you succeed in getting up a class letter. I would do all I could for it. It is so pleasant to hear from your friends that way.

Will's Theological class from McCormick (1892) keeps up a letter every year and they are interesting. Our "King's Daughters Ten" keep up our letter and I am so glad when they come. Miss Frey enjoys them as much as I do. How I wish our class at Ada could have a class letter. I enjoy the "Herald" so much.....

I know you must work very hard and I wish you wouldn't do it. I fear you will break down. You had better take it more easy. It does seem too bad that Pa and M will keep right on working as hard as they used to do. I am glad Addie is there and I hope she can stay. I wish you had some of these Koreans for servants you would know what it is to have help, I am sure.

We have to have them but if I had my choice I would rather be alone and do my own work. I think it is a great pity for a missionary wife to come out here to be her husband's cook and spend her time in the kitchen when the Koreans can do it just as well. I must say my cook does better than I can myself because he is in the business and I am not. Will has gone to the country or taken a trip on a Korean junk around to the village in the Bay and up the river, and taken the cook and

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Song along. Well, I do have a hard time to milk the cow and get a little for the children and myself to eat. I study in the forenoon, and then it comes twelve noon and I have no dinner, - the children cry and want something to eat and then I stew and slave over the stove, burn my fingers and things don't turn out well. I think sometimes that we will eat bread and milk until Will comes back. That is a funny wail, and you will laugh, I know.

It is already late so I will close and finish before the ship comes back. I put the babies to bed about 6 or 7 o'clock and hear no more from them until about 7 next morning. They are both ever so well.

Tuesday evening, - I have put the babies to bed and all is quiet so I will finish your letter. Not much use to try to write during the day, and very little use to try to read either. I am getting so I can read quite a little in the Korean. I manage to study a little each day. I hope to be able to take the 2nd year examination in October. I can't say how glad I will be when I can teach so they can understand me well. Those who come every Sunday can understand very well what I say. Will and the Koreans say that I speak very distinctly so I feel encouraged to persevere. I am so glad for the start I already have and I think before we come home I will have the language pretty well fixed. I do feel sorry for the missionary wives who know scarcely nothing of the language and do not try to study, and seemingly take take very little interest in the work. They are really to be pitied. It is such a great joy to sit down with a houseful of women, even though they do bring their little dirty children (naked), and then teach them about the Savior whom they never heard of before. Sometimes I can hear them say to one another, "This is a good doctrine; let us believe it."

It is so hard for them to keep the Sabbath. We can never know how many trials and temptations and persecutions they do endure. One of the Christians has finally shut his store on Sunday and took in a man who was driven out of a pipe-stem-making shop because he refused to work on Sunday. This man bought the pipe-stems because he was a merchant and had money to invest. He took in this poor man to work for him. So now he has 3 or 4 men working for him and they all lay their work aside on Sunday and come to the services. Their pipe-stems are quite artistic. I am having him make a lot for me and if they are nice I shall bring some home. They are long, and make such pretty paper and music racks.

We have had a very pleasant summer; not so warm but plenty of rain.

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Miss Frey made me a visit, was here 3 weeks. I enjoyed having her so much. We had a picnic one day across the Bay, and another day I got the Customs house-boat and we took an itinerating trip across the Bay to 2 villages. I wrote to Ma about it, so will not repeat. If I did not have the care of a family I would enjoy visiting villages and doing evangelistic work. We are received kindly everywhere we go and I have never yet been insulted in the least by any Koreans. Of course they may say lots of mean words which I don't understand but they always act as well as could be expected.

Miss Frey left on Monday night (2 weeks last night) and Will started to make an evangelistic trip around the Bay and up the river. He was gone only 3 days and returned. One week yesterday he started again and is trying a Korean junk this time. Mrs. Bishop gave a tent to this station, so he packs the tent and puts it up on the junk and sleeps on the junk; then goes into the villages during the day. I will be so glad when he is home again. He did not know how long he would stay.

I do feel a little lonely since Miss Frey left, and Will is gone, but I have so much to do the days are gone before I know it. After while I will have a lot of sewing to do and how I do wish for Addie. Miss Frey brought the children such a pretty flannel dress apiece and blue calico for aprons. I can begin to dress Wilbur a little more decently now since he begins to walk. He started off today for the first and it was fun to see him. He was as tickled as he could be with his first pants and boots. He is a very sweet boy and so good. I am sure you would think him pretty with his dark eyes and red hair and fair complexion. They are both ever so well and fat. Olivette is never still a minute during the day, and dislikes very much to obey. The Koreans can't do a thing with her and no wonder, - they are spineless. I really think it spoils the children to have them with the Koreans and yet I want them to be with them to learn the language. All those around us are Christians and are very careful what they teach the children. Amah speaks PyengYang dialect, and Susanna speaks the Seoul dialect; she doesn't think Olivette should speak the country dialect. This is a great worry to Amah, who tells Olivette not to listen to her talk, but all the time she is feeling so bad. There is so little difference that we don't care. Of course we can understand the Seoul dialect much better than the country talk, but it is nothing like China. In China one province can't understand the language of the adjoining province.

I have just finished reading a book on Africa, entitled "Mackey of Uganda". I have also read about the

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New Hebridea by John G. Paton this summer. When I read of other fields I feel thankful that the Lord saw fit to send us to Korea. We have so much to be thankful for.

I wish you could see the nice fruit we can buy from the natives. One of the Christian women left some apricots on the tree until they were ripe and brought them to us. They were delicious. I made about 2 doz. glasses of wild-cherry jelly and canned some for pies. I made some plum and apple jelly; also canned some. They plums are fine if they would only let them get ripe, - large red plums. The apples are much like our little crab-apples, but make nice jelly. The peaches and wild grapes are yet to attend to, - oh yes, and we get real nice red raspberries from the Koreans. I make vinegar and jam out of them. I get sugar from Japan for $4\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ gold a lb, so we do not send to America for these things any more. I hope to be able to make our American store bill much less every year. We have a cow now so that saves us buying the condensed milk and evaporated cream. I have to put the meal (flour) into sealed containers most of the time or we would be without. I am keeping the porridges and dried fruit that were left over without any getting worms in them. We took special pains with our strawberries this time and we have some fine boxes of plants, and the blackberries and raspberries are doing so well. We have the best coolie to keep the garden clear of weeds. We are trying to teach him so he can attend to the garden himself. In a few years we will have a nice lot of fruit. Mr. Oeison has remembered me with some apples from his apples from his garden and also some fine lemons that he got from San Francisco.

I see by the latest papers that the Democrats got a free silver man. What do you think of it; on which side are you? I see that Ada has had another debate on the silver question and Ada won again.

I surely wrote after I received your box; I suppose you had not received it yet.

With much love, Sallie.

Friday - Aug.21.

Will returned last night about 9 o'clock, after he rode 45 miles on horseback yesterday. How tired he was! - but so glad to get home. He dismissed the boat and got horses. He had a very pleasant trip and preached to many people but just the same as all of his trips, - the Gospel is not what these people want. In Sept, he will take another trip and in Oct. he goes to Seoul for Annual Meeting. So I am destined to be alone again. We are all ever so well, and hope this will find you all the same. With love, Sallie

Gensan, Korea - Aug.28, 1896

My dear Sister,

The ship will very soon be in on its way south so I will hasten to get a letter ready. We are all keeping so well all the time and never did eat so much from the garden. Really, our living is pretty much out of the garden. We are eating some of the Korean muskmelons and find them very good when ripe. Our melons will soon be ripe. We have a nice lot of muskmelons and some watermelons; are having cabbage and tomatoes corn, egg-plant and nice beets. We can get almost any kind of fruit we want from the shops if we go out and buy it. We are going to send to Chefoo for some apples and grapes by this ship. Our grapevine had a few bunches almost entirely without seeds and quite sweet. I wonder what kind they are. We will write to Mr. Baird at Fusan and find out, for he sent us the slips. We find great pleasure in our garden. Our strawberries are a pretty sight, and are larger than some we set out last August. My flowers are looking very well, -as well as could be expected planted in this new ground. I had such nice pansies but for some reason so many are dying. I wish I had a book on flower culture and also on gardening. Of course we don't have much time for either but when we do try to raise anything it is better to do it right. And out here we don't have so many experienced people to consult as you have at home. Well, a visit with you all once in a while would be a treat, I assure you. Our time is almost half up and if time passes as rapidly as it has in the past it will pass away very soon. I trust that we may all be kept well and no more changes in the next 4 years than there has been in the past 4. I am what we used to call "digging" at the language, and expect to until I pass the examinations. I haven't near all the work out and I am trying to catch up. I can't tell you how hard it is to study. The babies cry and one thing and another constantly interrupts me. This week I have had 27 women for a "sight-see" of the house. Now while I write Olivette sits on the desk and is constantly on the move. She says "Give Aunt Jennie a kiss" She is a real chatter-box; she can repeat "Three little mice sat down to spin," also "Two little eyes to look to God"- and she knows most of several Korean hymns. Soon I will have to spend part of each day teaching her and Wilbur. I think I shall send for our winter stores about the first of next month so they will get here in Nov. So if you would send us some maple syrup please get it started very soon. My mouth is watering for some good sweet 'lasses. If it is too much bother, why, never mind. Of course the box would come on alone but it causes a long delay, and if it comes with our goods the freight is very little. With much love, Sallie.

Seoul, Korea - Oct.13, 1896

My dear Sallie,

How I wish you might be here with me. But as you cannot I am so thankful that you can be so happy at home. Your two letters of Oct. 4th and 5th and also of Tuesday, all reached me today. And they do give me real joy, knowing that you are all well, and so full of the grace of the Lord. You'll be glad to know I, too, am just so happy all the time. Jesus is so precious. I am filled with His thoughts all the day long. I have been very well all the time.

I hope you have received the letter I sent from Chemulpo. The whole Pyeng Yang Station came in last week, just a day or two after I did, and Mrs. Baird arrived just ahead of me. I am so busy that I do not feel it is a great loss of time for me to be here so long. I preached last Sunday at the English Union service. I ought to thank you for my being prepared, and I do thank you; for I doubt whether I would have been prepared had you not called my attention to it. I preached on the Third Person of the Trinity, the filling of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit was with me and spoke through me. I never spoke with such grace and joy. I never had so many speak to me after the service as I did last Sunday. And I feel the Lord has blessed it to all who heard it, let it be said to the glory of His Name. We are all praying here that the Holy Spirit may lead and rule and direct during all the meetings that are to be held here in our Annual Meeting. I am sure you are praying for the same thing.

I never cease to pray for you, morning and night and all the time. Therefore I feel perfectly at peace because you are living in the Spirit, and I know you are in peace. This is a great joy to me I cannot tell you how happy it makes me to get your letters. I have ordered a suit of clothing and will get it tomorrow. I have also ordered a sedan-chair for you for 24 yen, a beauty; you will not need another for years. You can take the top off and have a nice open chair when you like. I have also ordered Pyeng Yang coal, but do not know whether I'll get it or not, but I'll know before I leave. I am doing without breakfast, and doing well. I have a recipe for wheat-coffee, and you will like it, I'm sure. You can try it....

Wash the wheat and dry it well. Then grind it in the coffee-mill Mix 1 cup of molasses to 10 cups of the ground wheat. Mix together and roast it in the oven, stirring so it won't burn. Then make it just as you do coffee. It is the best drink I ever had. New Orleans is the best molasses, but any kind will do.

I must go; more later. My best love to you, and two or more kisses for you and each of the children.

Good-night. Will.

Gensan, Korea - Oct. 23, 1896

My dear Jennie,

It seems a long time since I last heard from you I received such a good letter from Addie. It took me back to my girlhood days when we used to sleep up in the East room. I am so glad Addie is with Ma and I hope she will stay. What has become of Etta? I am writing by this mail to find out what she is doing. I feel real hurt that she neglects me so. I am sure you are busy as you can be from what Addie says. It is best to be busy, or at least I find it so. I have scarcely a minute, and if I had society or callers to look after what would I do!

I do not eat any breakfast, neither does Will. We are feeling so much better. I wouldn't go back to breakfast again for anything. The past summer we have just about lived on begetables and fruits,-very little meat. I think in August we only had a pound or so of beef, and very few chickens. We eat so much porridges and cereals and that brown bread (the recipe you gave me) its simply delicious...very few pies, none to speak of, and very few cakes with any shortening in them,-all spongue cakes. We have dinner at 12 and a light supper at 6. So you see we live very plain. We are all ever so well and the babies are fat dumplings. Whether it is the way we live or not I do not know, but I am thankful for such good health.

I hope you are trying this new way of living. We have been alone for 3 weeks. Will is in Seoul attending the Annual Meeting of our Mission. I hear from him quite often as he sends his letters by the Korean post, Korea really has the beginning of a postal system. Maybe poor little Korea will yet amount to something. Will writes me that he has bought Korean coal for winter. I think that American company has opened a mine. The Korean coal is excellant and we are delighted to get it. Our base-burner will go fine with the Korean coal.

I have made this week 2 gallons of tomato pickles one gallon of chow-chow. I have a nice lot of jams, jellies, canned fruit, and pickles made out of Korean fruits. I bought a little honey yesterday but it is not at all nice. I dont care much for Korean honey.

Dr. McGill has bees; he says they are the real Italian bees. He sows clover so he can have nice honey. Do you have your garden spaded in the autumn? We do. They tell us it is almost as good as a coat of manure. We will soon be gathering in our roots and cabbages. I am so sorry that my cabbage is not good. I have some, but most of the heads are small. Next week I'm going to get coolies and carry a to--dressing on the yard and pre-
pare for sowing the grass seed.

Oct.23, 1896

If I leave it for the Gales it is doubtful if they ever would get a sod. They sowed grass-seed on a hard baked clay yard and of course it never came up. They simply lost the seed.

I do a little bit of everything. I study 3 hours a day, look after the children, while Amah gets her dinner; sew, write letters, look after the garden, get my Bible lesson, and teach twice on Sunday. I try to spend at least one hour a day with the children, and I believe I will keep it up. That little book, "The Science of Motherhood" recommends it; it is a splendid little book. I am sending for some helps along the line of teaching children; also for a song-book. One book I am sending for, and I know it is good, is "First Steps for Little Feet in Gospel Paths". Mrs. Campbell lent it to me when I was in Ada. I am having a Christmas present sent to Etta, "Flora's Graduation". I do not know what it is, only that it is so highly recommended by such as Bishop Ninde & Christian Advocate. So I think it must be good. Your present is not much in quantity, but it is great in quality. It was my present, or one just like it, last Christmas, from Mrs. Wheelock, Chicago. I hope and pray it will do you as much good as it did me. Well, I will say "us", for Will was also much benefited by it. I will ask Will to please send the money to Fleming H. Revell, Chicago. When they send him the bill I don't think it will be over \$5.00 I have been thinking about a present for Addie and Myrtle. I feel I must not leave them out. I was going to send to Japan and get neck-ties and the like, but I thought over it, it came to me that now perhaps they don't have Bibles, which they ought to have by all means. I think you said that you got Etta's in some way by the pastor. Likely it was reasonable. Now I am going to ask you to get real nice Bibles for Addie and Myrtle, say \$2.50 or \$3.00 apiece; you use your own judgment. I am sure I could not get them anything better. And you present them to the girls with love from me. Now I hope this paying little bills won't bother Will too much; he is ever so kind.

Well, I must bring this to a close. I hope you will write soon. With love,

Sallie/

Gensan, Korea - Nov.26, 1896

My dear Jennie,

Your letter of Oct.22 received today. How good it was! It did seem like such a long time since I have heard from you. I am so glad that you are all well. I shall answer right away, for if I wait it may be a long time until another ship comes. Well, we are all well again. Will came home from Seoul 2 weeks ago today, after being absence 6 weeks, and on Tuesday he left for a trip to the country, will be gone probably 4 or 5 weeks. He has done so very little itinerating since we have lived here that he wants to get work started in the country as soon as he can. He expects to go to a large city about 200 miles north of here. Either going or coming will stop at villages and cities along the way. This trip will amost entirely live on native food. He took Song along so I hope Song will prepare him his food. Will is quite thin in flesh but is ever so well. We still continue to omit our breakfasts. The morning Will left I had the breakfast prepared and we tried to eat, but we did not relish anything. Have you tried it? In this letter you said that you had not the molasses started yet. They reached San Francisco too late, because I received a letter from Smith Co. today saying our goods were shipped Oct.20. It is no difference, only that they come late. I will send a letter to Smith Co. telling them to send them on alone; we will get them alright. I want you to pay Add for what he put in, and also take out the pay for what you put in. I thank you so much for all the trouble you had getting them started. We will live high. Think of having maple-syrup!; it makes my mouth water. I find if we want anything we must make arrangements about 6 months ahead. Will says that I must go to Seoul with him next, and attend the Mission Meeting. And I think I will try to go, for the children will be larger and less trouble. But if I should go I must begin now to plan to get them and myself clothes and shoes, in order to get them here in time. Will says that they had a grand meeting this year; they all received a blessing, and everything went off so well and satisfactorily. Will was Chairman of the meeting this year, and while at Seoul he addressed several meetings in Korean. They say that he speaks very well. He does all of his own preaching here. We are waiting for the Lord to direct us what to do about a church here. At present Will meets the men here in our yard, at the chapel on Sunday morning, while I go to Wonsan, and in the afternoon I meet the women here while he goes to Wonsan. We have a Korean house in Wonsan, but it is too small and dark to have the men and women meet together.

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We must have it so the men cannot see the women, though they hear the same sermon. We have a little money ahead here and I think that some of our Mission will help us buy a large Korean house and then we will convert it into a church. Our Board as well as other Boards are having a pretty hard time but they rejoice that silver did not win and so do we. They hope to have better times now, that the election is over. You remember the little Korean boy we put in school last year. We sent him back this year, and they think he will be able to support himself this year, by selling the Korean newspaper Dr. Jahison is editing. After Will returned from Seoul we decided we would have Susanna, our Bible woman, move in our house in Wonsan, and devote her entire time to the work. When she came to teach me I asked her how she would like to go to Wonsan to live, and to my surprise she was delighted, and so was her husband, our cook. They seemed so happy so we had the room vacated and they moved on Monday after I had spoken to her on Saturday. Already she has become acquainted with ever so many women, and can get into their homes, and I am so glad that she is willing to go on the street (preaching). She was Mrs. Gale's Bible woman, and when Mrs. Gale left she fell to me, and as she had always been up here on the hill, and never went out only in a closed chair, I was afraid to venture to have her go out in an (open) chair. I am sure that she and her husband have both received a blessing this summer for he is a very different man and she seems so full of the Spirit. As soon as this Japanese photographer gets some chemicals I want to have the baptized women's picture, so you can become acquainted with them.

One of the women, Esther by name, who is an earnest Christian, is having her share of persecution. Her husband is a wicked man; he burned all her books, and won't let her come to the services when he is at home. But she is faithful, and comes when she can. I wish you could hear her answers to questions that are put to her. There is another woman who is an earnest Christian. Her name is Elizabeth. She was not at the services on Sunday. When we found that she was at a wedding feast instead, we were much grieved. We heard that she was having trouble with her husband and son who want to be Catholics, so I went with Susanna to see her, and found it all too true. She was wavering; her husband applied to the Catholic priest for baptism and admission into the Catholic church. And the priest would not admit him as long as his wife was in our church. When her husband said that she was a member already of the

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"Jesus Church" and that she believed before he did, the priest replied something like this, -"Are you not the head of the family? Don't things go as you say? " So this stirred up trouble in the family. And to have peace I almost believe that she had a notion to go to the Catholics. I went as soon as I heard it to see her. She was all broken up; she don't want to go to the Catholics, and I guess they keep at her all the time. We cried and prayed together and left her with Jesus in His care. I must go to see her tomorrow again.

The Koreans tell us that the Catholics are much worse than those who are still in darkness. They traffic and trade on Sunday and I see them at it in a Catholic building as I pass every Sunday. Satan has his agents everywhere.

There are 6 girls about 13 and 14 in families whose father and mother are Christians. I am praying and looking forward when I can start a Bible school for the girls of those who are Christians. As yet I don't have the language sufficient, but I am sure the Lord will open the way.

This is Thanksgiving. I presume you had services at the church. We have never succeeded in having such services yet. I had a Thanksgiving dinner once but I did not try it again. As Will has gone I did not say anything about it to the others. But I must say this has been a happy day for me. When I awoke this morning I thought -what have I to be thankful for? And the first thought that came to me was that at last I have surrendered everything to Jesus, and have received the blessing. It is such peace, such precious peace; I can't tell you now but after I have proved the treasure I'll tell you if you want to hear. I wish you would seek for a higher experience, for the filling of the Holy Spirit God has promised to send. Luke 11:13. And He will show us what kind of wicked creatures we are. I never knew how many wicked sins I had until He showed them to me. And I never knew what it meant to hate sin as I do now. I am sending you a little bok which helped me and I trust God will use it to help you get "such a blessing" I find comfort in the thought that it is not so much in what we do and how much we do for Christ, as in how well we live for Him. What a relief it is to me not to get out of patience and mad at these poor Koreans. While I am writing this Amah comes in and sits down close up to me because she thinks I am lonesome. They pour out a lot of sympathy on me which is useless, because I am neither afraid nor lonesome. I am too busy to be either. Nevertheless I am glad that the Koreans do like us and show their sympathy for us. I do like the Koreans, and am never so happy as when I am sitting down among them and breaking the Bread of Life to the poor hungry souls

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Olivette and Wilbur are sound asleep. They are two busy bees, -what mischief one don't think of the other one does. They make it interesting for Amah and she is ever so patient with them. Every night when Olivette goes to bed, when I kiss her good-night she has to kiss me for Aunt Jennie, Grandma, Grandpa, Papa Wilbur, and tonight she included herself. Whenever I bring out anything, or any clothes which she hasn't been used to seeing, she says "Mama, did Aunt Jennie send that?" Today when I gave her those dollies she played with them a while, then she wanted me to put them up, so Wilbur could not spoil them. Wilbur is so different from Olivette. She was always so hard to conquer; it is nothing to conquer him. How I wish you could enjoy them with me, for they are a great comfort. How sad about Charlie Green's family...poor little motherless children! Poor woman, no wonder she died. If she had never done one stroke of work, it was too much for any woman's strength to have that many children in such a short time. I can't help but think of those poor little children.

I am glad that Etta is in school, and it is good for her to make her own money. She will know how to spend it. She never writes me at all, and I feel bad about that. I don't know but what I might help her a little, if she showed any appreciation. I have written her to Ada, and I trust that she will not get into that flip class of society. Probably she don't thank me for any of my advice; I have written more than I intended when I began, and it has been done hurriedly as you see. I think sometimes that I ought to take more time for my letters home, but I am so busy that I am glad to get them done anyway. I hope they are appreciated, and trust that they may do some little good.

With much love to all,

Sallie.

P.S. Sat. evening. Our Smith Order. came today, but the syrup is not along. I will write immediately, to have it sent on. The freight, duty, and other charges make our bills very high. I have butter and sugar to last me one year.

Gensan, Korea - Dec.26, 1896

My dear Jennie,

I wrote a short letter to Ma last evening, thinking probably the ship would leave soon, but she is still in, and does not leave until midnight, so I will write a short letter to you, while I am looking after the children. And you need not be surprised if it is full of mistakes. Olivette comes for me to kiss her dolly, and Wilbur does just what he sees her do. Then she opens the door and lets him out, and what one doesn't think of the other does. I find it dreadful to try to study where they are. I am really so worn out today that I can't think. For the past week I have worked almost night and day getting things ready for Christmas. I remembered all the foreigners and their children with something; also Will and our children, and our servants and helpers. Yesterday we invited all the Koreans who attend the services to come to our house. We cleared out the dining room and sitting room and had the men in one and women in the other, opened the sliding doors and put up a low screen and Will stood between and preached. I played the organ and we sang quite a number of songs. After the service we gave them a treat of pop-corn balls, cake, oranges, pears, dried persimmons, nuts, Japanese candy, etc. I had prepared for about 100, and there were just that many here. I remembered all the Christians who could not come with a package made up of the "goodies". I trust that the Koreans were benefited by having met together, and the name of Christ glorified by having celebrated Christmas in that way.

The day before Christmas Mr. Oeison, commissioner of customs, whose salary they say is 300 \$ gold a month gave a beautiful Christmas tree. His assistant, Mr. Ahrendts, acted as Santa Claus. The children were delighted with Santa and the many pretty presents. But just about the time he was to take his departure the cotton with which the brilliant garment was trimmed took fire and he took his departure in rather an exciting way, however, he escaped with only a badly burned hand.

Last evening Mr. Oeison gave a dinner party for the foreigners only. There were 10 present. He knows well how to get up a nice dinner; had 9 or 10 courses. He gives one every Christmas, and last evening we enjoyed it much more than ever before. He left the wine glasses away from our places, and also asked Mr. Fenwick to return thanks. Of the 10 at the table only 4 drank wine. We dreaded going and had a notion to decline, but all the Customs men are so kind to all the missionaries we disliked to offend them. And now since

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Mr. Oeison has taken that step we were glad we went. Mr. Fenwick is a great friend of his, and I trust he will have such an influence over him that he may become a converted man. Mr. Oeison has a Chinese wife and 4 nice children. She is never present at any of the dinner parties. She is a splendid Chinese woman and he seems to think a lot of her and the children. That is the way we spent our Christmas, and it was a very happy one. I hope that you all had a very merry Christmas, and will have a happy New Year.

Monday I begin again to study and I intend to work faithfully at it. Oh! how hard it is to have all this work to see after, and study too. While Will was in the country our cow had a calf. Imagine me breaking a kicking cow; with the help of the Koreans, I did it. We are getting about one gallon of milk a day now. We have sold our other cow for almost what we paid for her. I have made 5 lbs of butter, borrowed Mrs. McGil's churn as I do not have any. I do not intend to bother with butter any more. I sell one qt. a day now, so could not make butter if I wanted to. It is a luxury to have nice fresh milk all the time, but it is not so nice to get up and do the milking. Our cook has learned to milk, so he does it most of the time. Will bought a horse sometime ago. When he gets it broken to ride I intend to ride horseback. The nice new sedan-chair he brought from Seoul is too heavy for me, so I will have to give it up. We will sell it or let some small woman in our Mission have it. There is a little paper printed in Seoul called the "Independent", edited by Dr. Philip Jaihson. At New Years there is to be an English sheet and a Korean (unmun) sheet separate, so after we read the English I will mail them to you, if you would like to see them. Am glad you enjoy the Repository; that is a nice picture of the King in the November number. I had the pleasure of seeing him once, and quite close; he is still at the Russian Legation, and is building a new palace.

I must close. I hope this will find you all well and happy. I received a nice letter from Etta a few days ago. I will answer soon. With love to all. Olivette sends kisses to Aunt Jennie and Uncle Will.

Your sister Sallie.